

To: Dr. Charles Johns
Board of Education

From: Dr. Kim Ptak
Dr. R.J. Gravel

Date: Monday, July 11, 2022

Re: GBS Auditorium Stage Floor Replacement

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Education authorize Arcon Associates, the District architect, to develop bid specifications to replace the auditorium stage floor at GBS at an estimated cost of \$85,000.

Background

As part of the district-wide 3-year facility master plan, the auditorium stage floors at GBN and GBS are slated for replacement. The ideal time to do the replacement at GBS is this summer while other construction work is occurring in the auditorium (e.g., rigging system replacement, ceiling paint, new projector system, and new stage drapes).

The replacement of the auditorium stage floor was not initially included in the scope of work for this summer due to the long projected lead-time of both the rigging equipment and flooring material. Fortunately, the rigging system replacement project is progressing ahead of schedule, and all equipment and supplies are now on-site. The stage floor material is also available for purchase without any lead time.

The existing hardwood stage floor is 5,000 square feet and is original to the auditorium, and has worn from the various stage sets screwed into the base over time. There are numerous weak spots and a great deal of deflection underfoot. Additionally, there exists a significant amount of splintering, shearing, and the potential for failure under heavy loads. The pictures below illustrate the current condition.



After evaluating options and visiting area schools that have recently replaced their stage floors, it is recommended that the existing floor be replaced with a plywood product known as plyron. Plyron is constructed with a hardboard face that is laminated to a plywood substrate and is available in 4'x8' panels. It is a popular application for stage floors that require a hard, durable surface and enables set pieces to be secured to the floor without damaging the surface. After installation, this product is painted black and can be repainted as needed. The product has a 20+ year life expectancy and was recently installed in the theater at Loyola Academy this summer.

Given that all of the curtains are currently removed, and all equipment and theatre supplies have been relocated for the larger roofing and rigging system projects, it is an ideal time to move forward with the flooring project. From a timeline perspective, if the Board approved this project at the July 25, 2022 meeting, the stage floor's replacement would begin upon the rigging system's completion and before the stage curtain replacement. This progression would still enable all auditorium work to be completed by September 15, 2022, in time for fall play preparations.